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June 2, 1989

Mr. George Setlock, Ph.D. Manager, Environmental Management Rocky Flats Plant Rockwell International Corporation P.O. Box 464 Golden, Colorado 80402-0464

## Dear George:

The Cities of Westminster, Thornton, Northglenn, Arvada, and Golden and Jefferson County have contracted with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to conduct intensive studies at Standley Lake over the next 18 months. The focus of the study will be nutrient limitation of algae, identifying possible sources of taste and odor compounds, nutrient loading to the reservoir, and sediment chemistry. The study was prompted by the effort by Westminster, Thornton, and Northglenn to establish a phosphorus standard for the reservoir.

Sediment core and dredge samples will be taken as part of the effort to examine sediment chemistry. Westminster, Thornton, and Northglenn would like to take the opportunity to examine the sediments for radionuclides, especially those which may have come from the Rocky Flats plant. After reviewing the studies which have been done to date, the one performed in 1976 by DOE's Environmental Measurements Laboratory (EML) and Woods Hole Oceanigraphic Institute seemed to be the most thorough and comprehensive study, and, therefore, we are planning to follow this same methodology. The analyses used by EML were able to pinpoint the source of plutonium in the sediments. The core samples taken in this study were also deep enough to establish a timeline which was used to estimate a sedimentation rate.

You have indicated in the past that you would be willing to assist our three Cities in studying the sediments through the use of your sampling boat. This type of assistance would not be needed because of the capabilities of the USGS. However, we would like to invite Rockwell and DOE to participate in this effort because of the information which can be gained. We would also request that Rockwell or DOE fund the chemical analysis of the sediment samples, as the previous data indicates that a large portion of the plutonium in the sediments may have come from the Rocky Flats plant. This study presents an opportunity to develop a data base which the public feels is unbiased, to confirm results of the previous studies, and to provide data which will allow us to better manage our water supply.

The core samples for the sediment chemistry study will be taken in approximately August and October of this year, therefore, we need a reply on our request in the near future in order to coordinate with all parties involved. If this request should be directed to someone else associated with the facility, please let us know so that we can take the appropriate steps.

DOCUMENT CLASSIFICATION REVIEW WAIVER PER CLASSIFICATION OFFICE

**ADMIN RECORD** 

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Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to receiving your reply. Please feel free to call any of us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

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